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CITE DIRECTOR

TO FLASH SAIGON, [REDACTED]

1 JAN 6 03 50 Z

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COS SAIGON PASS IMMEDIATELY TO AMBASSADOR BUNKER AND GENERAL

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[REDACTED] PASS IMMEDIATELY TO ADMIRAL [REDACTED] FROM HELMS

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Task Force  report on coastal defense missile sites in North Vietnam.

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1. A preliminary examination of 19 December 1967 low-altitude aerial reconnaissance photography has revealed two coastal sites south of Thanh Hoa, North Vietnam which appear to be coastal defense missile sites.

2. The sites contain camouflaged equipment, including one object identified as probably a missile, as well as several possible rail-type launchers. These are similar to the types known to be used for Soviet coastal defense missile launchers.

3. Photo interpretation of the visible tail portion of the probable missile identifies it with the Soviet-type SS-N-2 (STYX) naval surface-to-surface missile. This missile has a range of about 20 nautical miles. It has not been detected in a land-based coastal defense role in the USSR or China, where it is used aboard Komar and Osa guided missile patrol boats. But there is evidence indicating this system is adaptable to use as a land-based coastal defense missile.

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4. One of the six-position sites was first seen in photography on [ ] when the site was unoccupied and identified as an SA-2 site. The other site was first identified in the [ ] photography. Both sites are within a few hundred feet of the sea.

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5. Current and past photography of the coastal areas is being searched for additional evidence.

6. Following is the NPIC photo-interpretation report on the two sites:

a. Preliminary scan of Mission [ ]

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[ ] reveals two revetted probable coastal defense sites, containing a probable SS-N-2 (STYX) missile and/or related equipment.

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b. Site 1. (Previously reported as Thanh Hoa SAM site Al7B-2 (260) Located 9.9nm SSE of Thanh Hoa at 193920N 1055006E (UTM WG 875734) consists of 6 revetted positions. One revetment contains a camouflaged probable SS-N-2 (STYX) missile which appears to be mounted on a truck. Two revetments contain camouflaged possible launchers. [ ]

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c. Site 2 is located at 194224N 1055132E (UTM WG 900791) 3.4 nm NE of Site #1 and 7.0 nm SE of Thanh Hoa. This site contains 6 revetted positions.

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Two revetments are occupied with camouflaged possible launchers. Four revetments contain camouflaged U/I equipment.

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d. In both sites, the camouflage covering over the possible launchers precludes a detailed interpretation. They appear to have dawl launch rails possibly mounted on some type of trailer. One of these possible launchers is observed in an inclined position.

e. The possible launchers appear similar to, although shorter than, the SSC-2 (SAMLET) coastal defense missile launcher.

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